AUSTRIAN INFORMATION

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AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER GRUBER IN ROME. Foreign Minister Dr. Karl Gruber, who travelled to Rome in mid-July on the occasion of the Holy Year, was received by Pope Pius in private audience on July 15. On the previous day, Dr. Gruber had a talk with Italian Foreign Minister Count Carlo Sforza, during which he expressed his satisfaction regarding the recent agreement between Austria and Italy on the question of the South Tyrolean optants. Later, Dr. Gruber also conferred with Prime Minister de Gasperi.

ACHESON ON DELAY OF AUSTRIAN TREATY. On July 12 Secretary of State Dean Acheson told a news conference that the 256th meeting of the Four Power deputies on the Austrian treaty negotiations held in London on July 10 had been used by the Soviet representative for reading a prepared statement on Trieste wholly irrelevant to the Austrian settlement.

"Soviet actions designed to prevent conclusion of the Austrian treaty must necessarily result in a delay of the fulfilment of Austria's desire, with which this Government is in full sympathy, to enjoy complete independence," said the Secretary. "It should be born in mind in this connection that any steps heretofore taken or to be taken by this Government to reduce Austria's occupation burdens are not regarded as a substitute for the treaty. Our actions in this respect are endeavors on our part to take such constructive measures as may properly be taken, pending conclusion of the treaty, to fulfill our obligations under the Control Agreement of 1946 which provides that the Allied Commission for Austria shall assist the freely elected Government of Austria to recreate a sound and democratic national life and to assume as quickly as possible full control of its own affairs of state."

GREAT BRITAIN PROMISES RELIEF OF OCCUPATION BURDENS. As is known, the Austrian Government in March 1950, sent a note to all occupation powers concerning alleviation of the occupation burden. (See "Austrian Information" bulletin, Vol. III, issue 4). In reply to this note, the British Government declared that the Government of the United Kingdom shared the regrets and disappointments of the Austrian people with regard to the delay in the signing of the State Treaty, which the British Government has constantly endeavored to achieve. The question of the payment of occupation costs would continue to be given every consideration, the note said, adding that it had already been decided to unify as much as possible the civilian personnel of the British staff of the Allied Commission with that of the British Embassy, as of August 1, 1950, in order to cut down on personnel and thus lessen Austria's burden of occupation costs. This measure would also result in the release of more apartments in Vienna. The British reply stated that complete dissolution of the military courts was not possible as long as British occupation forces had to remain in Austria, but that the British Government was considering the possibility of eliminating military permit requirements for persons wishing to enter Austria. The British Government finally declared its willingness to give favorable consideration to any plan for the return of radio facilities to Austrian control.

AUSTRIANS VOLUNTEER TO FIGHT. The Headquarters of United States Forces in Austria announced on July 18 that since the invasion of South Korea began many Austrians have tried to enlist in the U.S. Army. The statement emphasized that such enlistments in occupied Austria are prohibited under the law and that all applicants had to be rejected.

WIFE OF SOUTH KOREAN PRESIDENT A FORMER VIENNESE. Mrs. Syngman Rhee, wife of the president of the Republic of South Korea, is a Viennese by birth, according to a report in the Viennese newspaper "Die Presse". The paper states that Mrs. Rhee was born in Meidling, a district of

Vienna, and that her maiden name was Franziska Donner. In 1934 she was secretary of the Austrian delegation to a meeting of the League of Nations in Geneva, where she met her future husband.

VICTIM OF SOVIET DETENTION. The "Wiener Zeitung" reports that the political representative of the Austrian Federal Government in Moscow has been notified that Eduard Seeger, the Austrian architect, died of a heart attack in a Russian jail where he was serving a three-year prison sentence. Eduard Seeger, who served as a member of the Austrian Council of State prior to 1938 and whom the Nazis interned in the Dachau concentration camp after the annexation of Austria, was arrested by the Russians after the liberation of Austria in 1946 and deported from Austria, without any indication as to where he was taken. Unconfirmed reports reaching Austria said that Eduard Seeger had allegedly been sentenced to three years in prison. In this connection, the Vienna paper recalls that there are still a considerable number of Austrian political prisoners in the Soviet Union who were arrested after 1945 and spirited out of the country. Private sources report that although most of these prisoners have already served the sentences meted out to them, they continue to be detained; to date, none have been permitted to return to their families.

ERP TRAVELLING EXHIBITION NOT PERMITTED IN SOVIET ZONE OF AUSTRIA. Soviet authorities have forbidden the showing of a documentary film in their zone about the significance of the European Recovery Program to the economic reconstruction of Austria, which was to be shown in all of Austria on the occasion of a travelling exhibition.

AUSTRIAN DIPLOMAT KILLED IN AIR CRASH. Dr. Karl Pereira, Austrian Chargé d'Affaires in New Delhi, was killed in an air crash near Patankot, India, on July 17.

AUSTRIAN CONSUL GENERAL AT COLGATE CONFERENCE. Dr. Franz Matsch, the Austrian Consul General in New York, delivered two lectures on July 8 and 10 at the Colgate Conference on American Foreign Policy in Hamilton, New York, which was attended by almost 700 professors and instructors from various American universities. The lectures were entitled: "What has been accomplished in Austria since 1945" and "What shall we do with Austria now?". Both lectures were followed by a question period during which Dr. Matsch answered a number of questions on developments in Austria. Other lecturers at the Colgate Conference were John Foster Dulles, State Department Advisor; Francis B. Sayre, U.S. Delegate in the United Nation's Trusteeship Council; Malcolm W. Davis, Director of the Carnegie Endowment; Sir Sydney Caine, British Minister in Washington; Alf Landon, Governor of Kansas; and Dean Rusk, Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs.

AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT ADJOURNS AFTER COMPLETION OF SPRING SESSION. After passing a number of important laws, the Austrian Nationalrat (Lower House of Parliament) closed its spring session on July 14 and adjourned for the rest of the summer. The present Nationalrat was elected in the October 1949 general elections. The last day of the session was devoted to a spirited debate on the pressing housing problem and the appropriation of necessary funds for the reconstruction of destroyed and damaged dwellings and the erection of new housing developments. Conservative estimates place the country's housing needs at 250,000 apartments, the construction of which would require an expenditure of about 15 billion schillings. As the two leading parties in the Austrian Parliament -- the People's Party and the Socialists -- were unable to agree on several basic questions pertaining to the ownership of homes and future rent levels, an organic and comprehensive solution of the housing problem had to be postponed until the fall session. They did however agree on some stand-by measures which will make an estimated 280 million schillings available for housing. This expenditure is to be covered principally from the proceeds of a 5% housing reconstruction levy on income and corporation taxes. The institution of this new tax will be accompanied by a corresponding 5% reduction in the occupation tax (from 20% to 15%) levied on the Austrian people for partial coverage of the costs of occupation.

In the face of disagreement between the two leading parties the solution of another economic problem, that of the so-called anti-trust law, also had to be shelved until the fall. The representatives of

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the Government majority party took the view that there was not enough time during the spring session of Parliament to debate the measure fully, whereupon the Socialists walked out of the Economic Affairs Committee in protest.

On the other hand, the two coalition parties joined during the closing days of the session to adopt a number of important bills covering price stabilization of critical farm products, autonomy in the administration of Austrian institutes of higher education and the appropriation of federal subsidies to make up for the deficit incurred by the Salzburg Festivals. This session also passed a law for the promotion of Austrian exports through more liberal credit measures in financing medium- and long-term export transactions, and voted an amnesty for certain crimes committed in the critical period after the collapse of the Nazi regime in April 1945. Serious crimes, i.e. those punishable by a jail sentence of more than five years, and some offenses particularly harmful to society are the only ones not affected by the new amnesty measure.

MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR HELMER ON THE DISSOLUTION OF THE V.d.U. IN STYRIA. At the July 12 session of the "Nationalrat" (Lower Chamber of Parliament), several deputies of the Union of Independents (V.d.U.) protested vehemently against the recent dissolution by the Austrian Government of the Styrian Section of the Union of Independents. (See "Austrian Information" bulletin, Vol. III, issue 9). Minister of the Interior Oskar Helmer, Socialist, came to the defense of the Government decision. He told the legislative body that he had long been watching with great patience the things that were going on within the Union of Independents in Styria, and that he had decided to take decisive action against the party only when the excesses of its members in Graz had assumed proportions that he could under no circumstances continue to tolerate. The security organs in Austria, Minister Helmer stated, have been ordered to maintain a close watch on the enemies of the Republic and of Democracy. "We are resolved to protect and defend Democracy with all means at our disposal. Those who violate the laws of Democracy, automatically place themselves beyond the rights of Democracy", Minister Helmer said.

DISSENTION WITHIN THE "UNION OF INDEPENDENTS". Following the decision of the Austrian Ministry of the Interior to ban the Styrian Section of the Union of Independents (see "Austrian Information" bulletin, Vol. III, issue 9), the "Wiener Zeitung" reports that the National Committee of the party has suspended a number of leading party officials, including Gordon Gollob, heretofore its General Secretary.

"VIKTOR ADLER" MEDAL BESTOWED UPON DR. ELLENBOGEN. On July 22 Dr. Wilhelm Ellenbogen, veteran Austrian Socialist leader and former Secretary of State now living in the United States, received the "Viktor Adler" Medal from the hands of two members of the Austrian Parliament, Wilhelmine Moik and Karl Czernetz, passing through New York during their current study trip to the United States. The medal was granted to Dr. Ellenbogen by the Executive Committee of the Austrian Socialist Party and is the highest distinction the party can confer. The presentation was made in honor of Dr. Ellenbogen's long years of extraordinary service and devotion to the cause of the Socialist labor movement. The medal itself, consisting of a raised likeness of Viktor Adler, was mounted in a red leather case which also contained a dedication and the signatures of Federal President Dr. Karl Renner and the members of the party's Executive Committee.

DEADLINE FOR FILING CLAIMS UNDER THE FIRST THREE RESTITUTION ACTS EXTENDED. The deadline for filing restitution claims under the first three Restitution Acts has been extended to December 31, 1951, by a decree of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance dated May 24, 1950.

1950-1952 INVESTMENT PROGRAM IN AUSTRIA. The "Wiener Zeitung" of June 12, 1950, published a number of interesting details on the 1950-1952 Austrian investment program, drawn up by the Austrian Federal Government and submitted to ECA authorities by Dr. Wilhelm Taucher during his recent visit to Washington. The investment program is subdivided as follows:

I) Agriculture

Net investments envisaged for agriculture will amount to about 3.39 billion schillings; counterpart funds being assigned to an extent of 620 millions. The most important investments to be carried out with the help of counterpart funds include the following projects: extension and advisory services; mechanization and improvement of production facilities; measures directly increasing production; development of existing and establishment of new marketing facilities; protective measures to avoid production losses (control of cattle tuberculosis, etc.). After effectuation of these investments, annual production will rise by about 1.7 billion schillings and imports be saved to an extent of 1 billion schillings.

II) Forestry

Forestry is a very important branch of the Austrian economy owing to the forest wealth of the country. However, in consequence of the overcuttings during the last few decades Austrian wood resources have been greatly reduced. Therefore, it has become necessary to open up less accessible forests in mountainous regions and to improve the haulage system. Moreover, reforestation must be promoted and various other rationalization measures taken in order to maintain the present level of cutting without detriment to the forest stands. In addition, these measures will serve to reduce production costs and thus to provide further export possibilities for the wood converting industries. Net investments are planned in an amount of 345 million schillings, of which 195 millions will be contributed by counterpart funds. These investments will result in an increase of exports by about 150 million schillings and a saving of imports of some 44 million schillings a year.

III) Wood Converting Industries

The main purpose of the respective projects is to reach the highest degree of utilization of indigenous wood resources and to process primary forest products to such an extent as is desirable and feasible from the technical and economical points of view. On the other hand, the competitive position of the Austrian wood industries on the world market can only be maintained if production costs are considerably reduced and production conditions adjusted to market requirements. The most important investments are to be made in the primary wood industries (saw mills, plywood, veneers, wallboard, wood impregnation). 50 per cent of the estimated investment requirements totalling 280 million schillings are to be financed from counterpart funds. This will result in an export expansion of 92 million schillings and a saving of imports of 17 millions.

IV) Coal Mining

Austria depends almost entirely on imports of hard coal, whereas she disposes of considerable lignite deposits. The output of soft coal may be raised from 4 to 4.7 million tons per annum. Moreover, investments are necessary in order to prevent the deterioration of exploitation. Furthermore, the output per shift has to be raised and production costs to be lowered in order to keep domestic production competitive with foreign products.

V) Power Industry

While coal resources are very limited, Austrian hydro-electric power is in ample supply. The completion of plants under construction and the erection of new stations is imperative if the urgent domestic demand is to be met and the favorable marketing possibilities are to be utilized. Total expenditure for the investment program amounts to 2.9 billion schillings (1.4 billions to be raised from counterpart funds). The plants to be completed by 1952 will produce 1684 million kWh in a normal year and thus permit a saving of 15 million dollars worth of foreign exchange which otherwise would have to be spent for coal imports if this power volume were generated by thermal power plants. In addition, the planned investments will permit an export surplus of 188 million schillings annually.

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VI) Magnesite and Other Mining Industries

Magnesite represents one of Austria's most valuable export items. Talcum export chances, too, are very promising. In order to rationalize these two production branches as well as the exploitation of graphite and kaoline mines, net investments amounting to 100 million schillings are needed. The contribution from counterpart funds should be about 13 million schillings.

VII) Primary Iron Industry

Owing to her important iron ore resources, Austria has, in the course of many centuries, developed an important basic iron and steel industry. The plants which are partly obsolete and partly war damaged are to be repaired, expanded and modernized. This will require investments of about 1 billion schillings, 700 millions of which are to be contributed from counterpart funds. Thereby an important cost reduction will be achieved, exports be raised by 126 millions and imports saved by about 28 million schillings.

(To be continued in the next two issues of "Austrian Information").

ECA AUTHORIZES ALMOST TEN MILLION DOLLARS FOR THREE STYRIAN PAPER MILLS. In view of the large contribution of Austria's paper industry to the country's overall exports, the ECA recently approved three reconstruction projects for Styria's paper industry involving a total cost of 9.9 million dollars, according to a report published by the "Neues Oesterreich". Of this amount, 3.9 million dollars are to be earmarked for the procurement of machinery and equipment through the ECA under the direct aid program. The first project covers the modernization of two mills of the Arland Papier- und Zellstoff-Fabriken, Inc. After realization of the program now contemplated, it is expected that production at one of the mills will increase from 8,000 to 17,000 tons, and, at the other, from 10,000 to 16,000 tons per year. In this case, the project will be financed partly by direct ECA aid in the amount of nearly 1.2 million dollars, for the purchase of American machinery. Additional funds include $144,000 in German, and $75,000 in Italian, drawing rights, as well as the equivalent in schillings of 1.3 million dollars from the Austrian Counterpart Fund.

The second project, the total cost of which is expected to amount to 3.7 million dollars, calls for the installation of a modern machine for the production of newsprint at the mill of the Muerztaler Holzstoff- und Papierfabrik, Inc., in Bruck-an-der-Mur. Direct ECA aid to the extent of 1.6 million dollars will be made available for the acquisition of machinery. Additional machinery costing almost 550,000 dollars will be imported from Germany and paid for through Austrian drawing rights in that country. The equivalent of 1,480,000 dollars has been authorized from the ERP Counterpart Fund. Modernization of this mill is expected to raise its yearly output of newsprint from 12,500 to 32,000 tons by 1952. Export of additional newsprint would strengthen Austria's economy by another 1.5 million dollars per year. Modernization of the mill would also result in a yearly $250,000 saving in hard coal.

The third project concerns the modernization of the Brigel & Bergmeister pulp and paper mill in Niklasdorf-an-der-Mur. The total cost of this project will amount to almost 3.6 million dollars, including a release of $1,129,000 for the purchase of American machinery. This project will be further financed by the equivalent of $221,743 in German, $218,085 in Swedish, and $81,650 in Swiss, drawing rights. In addition, the equivalent of $1,925,000 will be made available from the Counterpart Fund. These large-scale investments are expected to raise the yearly production of wood pulp from 26,000 to 30,000 tons and that of paper from 10,000 to 18,000 tons. Despite these production gains, no large-scale increase in raw material requirements will be necessary, because of the use of modern machinery.

MAY SHOWS SLIGHT INCREASE IN AUSTRIAN EXPORTS. Austrian imports in May amounted to 651 million schillings, as compared to 586 million schillings in April, and exports totalled 490 million schillings, as compared to 462 million in April, according to a recent release from the Austrian Central Office of Statistics. The excess of imports over exports increased from 124 to 161 million schillings. ERP imports are not included in these figures.

1,000% INCREASE IN AUSTRIA'S EMBROIDERY EXPORT. Austria's embroidery export in 1950 has increased approximately 1,000 % as compared with 1949, Dr. Walter Muehlwerth, Secretary General of Austria's Vorarlberg Embroidery Association, declared on his arrival at Idlewild airport. He is on his way to the Chicago Fair, where the Austrian embroidery industry is presenting to the American public its first comprehensive collection of Vorarlberg's embroideries. 95% of Vorarlberg's embroideries are already now being exported, but it is hoped that the American share in these exports will be much larger in the future, Dr. Muehlwerth said.

Vorarlberg, where Austria's embroidery industry is mainly located, borders on Switzerland. It is Austria's smallest province - in many respects similar to this country's New England states, with about 26% of the population living from agriculture and large clusters of industry interspersed. Though located in Austria's smallest province, Vorarlberg's embroidery industry has, in past years, helped to cover more than 10% of the entire Austrian foreign trade deficit. Among the countries into which Vorarlberg's embroidery is being exported are Great Britain, Australia, Canada, Western Germany, the United States, the Scandinavian countries and the Netherlands. Dr. Muehlwerth, who will head the Vorarlberg embroidery exhibition at the Chicago Fair, expressed hope that vastly increased exports of Austrian quality embroidery will help bridge the still existing dollar gap in Austria's foreign trade.

TRADE TREATY SIGNED BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND PAKISTAN. Austria and Pakistan recently signed a trade agreement which provides for an increased volume of trade between the two countries. The new treaty covers a commodity exchange of 4 million pounds sterling. Austria's major purchasesfrom Pakistan will consist of jute, cotton and wheat, in exchange for exports of iron, metal products, paper machinery and chemicals.

AUSTRIAN SAVINGS ACCOUNTS PASS TWO BILLION MARK. During the month of May savings accounts at Austrian savings banks increased from 1,999.8 million schillings to 2,018.5 million schillings, thus passing the 2 billion mark. Further evidence of increased savings is the fact that during the month of May 7,750 new savings accounts were opened, as compared to 5,968 in April.

AUSTRIAN TOBACCO PRODUCTION. Austria's tobacco industry is today producing 33% more tobacco products than it did in 1937. This upward trend, however, has been somewhat irregular and not all types of tobacco products have fared equally well. Although the monthly output of cigarettes has risen from 350 million to more than 500 million, the production of about 100,000 kilos of pipe tobacco per month continues to remain far behind the monthly pre-war average of 330,000 kilos. The monthly production of cigars, which now stands at 7 million, has almost reached pre-war levels.

AUSTRIAN TOURIST SEASON GETS OFF TO A GOOD START. This year's tourist season in the Austrian Alps, the lake region and the Salzkammergut got under way in the beginning of July with clear and sunny weather that was only rarely marred by showers and thunderstorms. The big well-known resorts are catering to a record number of tourists, with hotels, inns and tourist houses nearly completely filled. The number of foreign tourists in Austria this year has reached pre-war proportions for the first time since the war. Automobile traffic is heavier than it had ever been in the past. Two large tourist agencies in London have notified the Austrian Federal Railroads that as of the end of June they had accepted some 12,500 bookings for vacation trips to Austria. Danish tourist offices report that by the end of June about 9,000 bookings for Austria had already been placed. Tourists from France are also showing a steadily growing interest in vacation trips to Austria.

NEW AUSTRIAN RECORDING COMPANY. The Philips-Ton-Gesellschaft, Ltd., of Vienna, which will make current recordings in all fields of music, was established in Austria early in July. The output of the new company is primarily intended for export to nearly all countries, with only a limited number of its recordings being sold domestically. Distribution of the new records will be handled by the world-wide Philips organiza-

tion and the Deutsche Grammophon Gesellschaft in Hanover. Managing Director of the new company is Stephan Markus, who for many years was commercial director of the Austrian radio network RAVAG.

UNESCO SEMINARY ON POPULAR EDUCATION IN AUSTRIA. In July, delegates from 22 nations participated in a seminary sponsored by UNESCO in Kreuzstein, on the Mondsee, which dealt primarily with problems of popular and adult education. Sven Bjoerklund, Director of the Kreuzstein Seminary and Rector of the People's University in Stockholm, pointed out that the international seminary in Kreuzstein was a common undertaking of a completely new nature, namely an international center for the training of leading personalities in the field of popular education. The seminary produced a large number of documents, photographs and records, as well as a documentary film, which is being made available to interested organizations everywhere. During a visit to Vienna the international delegates were received by Dr. Felix Hurdes, Austria's Minister of Education.

VIENNA'S SECONDARY SCHOOL GRADUATES POLLED ON THEIR CAREER WISHES. The Board of Education of the City of Vienna recently conducted a poll of this year's graduates of the city's secondary schools to determine their preferences with regard to the choice of a career. A total of 1,828 graduates were queried, 40% of them girls. In Austria, secondary school graduates must pass a so-called maturity examination after their eight-year course; their average age is therefore 17 to 18 years. Of those polled, 13.7% of the boys and 7.2% of the girls want to continue their studies by going to liberal arts colleges and universities (in 1928 the percentage was 29.4% and 11.1%, respectively). Another 10.4% of the boys and 0.3% of the girls wish to enter institutes of technology. A sharp rise has been noted in the number of those who are looking forward to a civil service career. In 1928, they represented 6.8% of the boys and 1.8% of the girls; today, their number has increased to 9.9% and 10.3%, respectively. A business career has most attraction for 6.9% of the male, and 6.2% of the female, graduates (in 1928 the figures were 7.9% for the former and 1.8% for the latter). Of particular interest is the fact that 45 boys and 7 girls graduating this year intend to learn a trade, whereas in 1928 none of the graduates entertained such plans. Since only 41 of this year's group of graduates intend to study medicine, the poll showed that a greater number of those questioned decided in favor of learning a trade than in favor of embarking on a medical career.

POSTGRADUATE WORK AT THE VIENNA ACADEMY OF MEDICINE. The Academy of Medicine in Vienna is offering postgraduate training to doctors of medicine who received their M.D. degree in Austria or at any medical school of equal standing. After at least one year of postgraduate work, applicants will be examined in their specialty and if they pass these examinations they will receive a diploma in their specialty from the Academy. After regular attendance for two years of postgraduate work and successful completion of the corresponding examinations, the candidates will be awarded a degree as "Member" of the Academy of Medicine in their specialty. Physicians with at least ten years of postgraduate work are eligible to become "Fellows" of the Vienna Academy of Medicine in their elected specialty. Registration deadlines for postgraduate training at the Academy are April and October; examinations are given in March and September. For detailed information, you are invited to contact the Information Department of the Austrian Consulate General, 509 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N.Y. or the Office of the Vienna Academy of Medicine, Vienna IX, Alserstrasse 4, Allgemeines Krankenhaus.

TWO AUSTRIAN SCIENTISTS HONORED. A white marble statue was recently unveiled on the campus of the University of Vienna in honor of the famous Austrian surgeon, Dr. Anton Eiselsberg. The commemorative address was delivered by Prof. Schoenbauer, the pupil and successor of Dr. Eiselsberg.

A memorial Tablet in honor of Prof. Julius Tandler, one-time Professor of Anatomy at the University of Vienna and former City Councillor, was unveiled at Vienna's Child Welfare Service on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of its establishment. Mayor Koerner reviewed the work of this memorable institution which has cared for almost 176,000 children during its 25 years of existence. He also paid tribute to

the enduring work of Prof. Tandler on behalf of child welfare in Austria, and recalled that he had been one of the first doctors to recognize that tuberculosis was bred by slums.

PROFESSOR LOEWI RECEIVES HONORARY DOCTORATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GRAZ. The Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Graz decided to confer upon Dr. Otto Loewi, former Professor of Pharmacology at the Faculty of Medicine in Graz, the Honorary Doctorate of the Faculty of Philosophy. Professor Loewi, who is now research professor for Pharmacology at the College of Medicine of New York University, received the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1936 for his discoveries in the chemical transmission of nerve impulses.

AUSTRIAN ART TREASURES IN SAN FRANCISCO. The exhibition of Austrian Art Treasures, which previously enjoyed such great success at the National Gallery in Washington and at the Metropolitan Museum in New York, opened at the De Young Memorial Museum in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, on July 7. More than 9000 persons attended the opening. Mr. Walter Heil, Director of the De Young Memorial Museum, and the directors of the Museum of the History of Art in Vienna, Dr. Ernst Buschbeck and Dr. Erich Strohmer, made the opening addresses. The exhibition will remain in San Francisco until October 1, when it will be moved to Chicago for presentation there.

MENOTTI'S "CONSUL" TO BE PERFORMED AT VIENNA OPERA. The recently announced program of Vienna's two opera houses for the 1950-51 season reveals a number of interesting new productions and revivals. During the coming season, the State Opera playing at the Theater an der Wien will feature Menotti's "Consul" and Richard Strauss' "Daphne", as well as new productions of "Eugene Onegin" by Tschaikovsky, "Falstaff" and "Il Trovatore" by Verdi, and "Goetterdaemmerung" by Wagner. On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Verdi's death the State Opera (Theater an der Wien) will also present a Verdi cycle with the participation of the opera's best singers. A modern ballet evening is also scheduled. The State Opera playing at the Volksoper theater will offer, among others, new or first German productions of "Kathrin" by Wolfgang Korngold. "The Love of Three Oranges" by Serge Prokofiev, "Porgy and Bess" by Gershwin, "Gasparone" by Milloecker, as well as one operatta by Johann Strauss and one by Franz Lehar.

AMERICAN MODERN MUSIC FEATURED IN THOMAS SCHERMAN CONCERT IN VIENNA. Thomas Scherman, the permanent conductor of the Little Orchestra Society of New York, made his debut in Vienna at the end of June in a special concert with the Chamber Orchestra of the Vienna Concert Hall Society. Mr. Scherman's keen sense of style and musical expression was unanimously hailed by the city's music critics. The concert featured David Diamond's incidental music to Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet", Edward MacDowell's Piano Concerto in D minor, Schubert's Third Symphony and the "Introduction and Variations on a 16th Century Theme" by Austria's contemporary composer Alfred Uhl.

"THE BOOK OF AUSTRIA" NOW AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH. The English edition of "The Book of Austria", a richly illustrated work presenting a cross-section of the country and its people in feuilletonistic form, is now available in this country. Copies priced at $4.00, plus postage, can be ordered by writing to the Austrian Institute, Inc., 165 West 46th Street, New York, N.Y. The English-language edition, of which more than 20,000 copies have already been sold in Austria, has been competently prepared by G.E.R. Gedye, well-known British journalist and writer.

SUMMER EXHIBITION AT THE ALBERTINA MUSEUM IN VIENNA. On July 1 the Albertina Museum in Vienna opened its summer exhibition of old art. This year's exhibition, under the title "The Great Primitives" is showing the beginnings of wood carving, copperplate engraving and metalworking. Many of the works of art on display are unique and among the most precious of museum possessions.